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SECRET 131410Z CITE GERMANY 4677

DIRECTOR

RYBAT

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REF DIRECTOR 33095

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCESMETHODSEXEMPTION 382B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2005

1. YOUR MESSAGE DELIVERED TO AMBASSADOR MCGHEE WHO DECIDED THE PROPER "LOW KEY" PROCEDURE WAS TO ADVISE MINISTER WESTRICK OF YOUR INTENTION TO INVITE GENERAL GEHLEN AND TO ASK WESTRICK TO CONSULT CHANCELLOR ERHARD IF HE THOUGHT IT NECESSARY. WESTRICK SAID HE WAS SURE THE CHANCELLOR WOULD HAVE NO SPECIAL PREFERENCES IN THE MATTER AND NO OBJECTION. WE HAVE NOW WAITED ABOUT 72 HOURS SINCE DELIVERING THE MESSAGE TO SEE IF WESTRICK MIGHT HAVE RECEIVED A DIFFERENT REACTION FROM ERHARD THAN HE EXPECTED AND HAVE NOT HEARD ANYTHING AT ALL. AMBASSADOR MCGHEE HAS THEREFORE ASKED ME TO ADVISE YOU AND SECRETARY RUSK THAT HE CONSIDERS THE INVITATION TO GENERAL GEHLEN TO HAVE BEEN CLEARED WITH THE CHANCELLOR.
2. SINCE I AM SCHEDULED TO SEE GENERAL GEHLEN THIS FRIDAY, 16 SEPTEMBER, I WOULD LIKE YOUR PERMISSION TO CONVEY YOUR LETTER TO HIM IF IT HAS ARRIVED IN MUNICH OR TO ADVISE HIM ORALLY THAT IT IS COMING. THIS WILL BE MY FIRST REAL BUSINESS MEETING WITH

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THE GENERAL AND IT WILL BE MOST HELPFUL IN TRYING TO GET OUR
RELATIONS WITH HIS GROUP ONTO A HIGHER AND MORE CORDIAL PLANE
IF I CAN BEGIN WITH THIS PROPITIOUS GESTURE. I WOULD ALSO WELCOME
MORE DETAILS ON YOUR THINKING ABOUT THE VISIT.

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C/S Comment: *L I requested Ambassador mention to the Chancellor
in low key his intention to invite General Gehlen to U.S. sometime this fall.

NNNN